

## **APPENDIX C**

### **THE BASELINE INTERVIEW**

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## **A. INTRODUCTION**

During the design stage of the study, the evaluation team investigated whether objectives could be met if baseline data on sample members were obtained from expanded program application (ETA-652) forms rather than from a baseline interview. The team concluded that the use of the intake data would substantially compromise the richness of the baseline data available to conduct subgroup analyses because only a limited number of questions could be asked on an expanded intake form. The team was also concerned that providing the minimum baseline information necessary to meet evaluation objectives would impose additional burden on OA counselors. Finally, they found that the cost savings from forgoing the baseline interview would be modest. Because of the risks of collecting baseline data using program intake data, DOL decided to fund the baseline interview.

This three-part appendix discusses in detail the design and implementation of the baseline interview. First, we discuss the baseline interview design. Second, we discuss response rates to the interview. Finally, we discuss item nonresponse.

### **1. Design of the Baseline Interview**

Baseline interviewing took place between mid-November 1994 and July 1996. The detailed locating information in the ETA-652 and the ETA-652 Supplemental forms was used to help locate youths. OMB approved the use of a \$10 incentive fee offered to control group members and hard-to-locate program research group members to induce them to complete the baseline interview.

All sample members were contacted by telephone soon after they had been randomly assigned (usually the same day). Telephone interviews were attempted as soon as possible after random assignment to increase the proportion of interview respondents who did not know their research status prior to the interview. We promised OA counselors that after MPR received complete random assignment materials, they would be notified of random assignment results within 24 hours for

expedited cases and 48 hours for regular cases. MPR staff were typically able to process materials more quickly than promised. However, if possible and if results were not needed urgently, MPR staff waited close to the full 24- or 48-hour period to return results to Job Corps staff. This allowed telephone interviewers time to contact the sample members before they learned whether or not they could enroll in Job Corps.<sup>1</sup> This was an important design feature to minimize the extent to which survey responses would differ by research status.

We believe that, for two main reasons, most interview respondents did not know their research status at the time of the interview. First, interviewers reported that more than 83 percent of sample members did not know their research status at the time of the interview (85.1 percent of program research group members and 80.3 percent of control group members).<sup>2</sup> Second, as discussed below, more than three-quarters of interview respondents completed their interview within seven days after random assignment, and this percentage is identical for program group and control group members. This information cannot be used to determine the exact proportion of interview respondents who did not know their research status at the time of the interview, because we do not know how long it took Job Corps staff to inform randomized youths of their research status. However, these results suggest that baseline interviews were conducted with most sample members before they knew whether they were assigned to the program or control groups.

At the end of May 1995, we began attempting in-person interviews with sample members not reachable by telephone. We waited until May to conduct these interviews so that enough sample members had been released into the field to make it cost-effective to hire field interviewers. In-

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<sup>1</sup>Telephone interviewers did not know the research status of sample members except the ones interviewed in a Job Corps center. Hence, interviewers could not tell youths whether they were assigned to the program research or control groups.

<sup>2</sup>Interviewers reported that they did not know whether the respondents knew their research status for an additional 15 percent of the respondents.

person interviews were attempted only with sample members who lived in randomly selected areas when they applied to Job Corps, because it would have been extremely expensive to conduct in-person interviews nationwide.<sup>3</sup> About two-thirds of randomized youths in the study population lived in areas selected for in-person interviewing when they applied to Job Corps.<sup>4</sup>

Sample members in the selected areas were released into the field for in-person interviewing if they could not be reached by telephone within 45 days after random assignment. During the post-45-day period, in-person and continued telephone interviews were attempted for these youths. However, during the post-45-day period, *neither* telephone nor in-person interviews were attempted for youths who lived in the nonselected areas. Consequently, the within-45-day sample is a nationally representative random sample of eligible applicants who could be reached by telephone within 45 days. The post-45-day sample, however, is a nationally representative *clustered* sample of those who could be reached after 45 days. Both groups combined represent all those in the study population.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>In order to define areas for in-person interviewing, we divided the country into three types of areas, on the basis of adjoining groups of counties: (1) those in which about 1,000 Job Corps students resided in 1993 (*superdense* areas), (2) those in which about 600 Job Corps students resided in 1993 (*dense* areas), and (3) those in which about 300 students resided in 1993 (*nondense* areas). The “optimal” number of each type of area to select was calculated to maximize the precision of the impact estimates, subject to the cost of conducting interviews in each type of area and a fixed interview budget. On the basis of this procedure, we randomly selected all 16 superdense areas, 18 of the 29 dense areas, and 29 of the 75 nondense areas for in-person interviewing. All control group members designated for nonresidential slots on the Supplemental ETA-652 form, however, were eligible for in-person interviews to increase the precision of impact estimates for the small nonresidential program component.

<sup>4</sup>The figures for control group members (72 percent) and for program research group members (66.5 percent) differ because sampling rates to the research sample differed for various population subgroups.

<sup>5</sup>The 45-day cutoff was chosen because telephone response rates increased slowly after this period for the early cohort of randomized youths.

Baseline interviews were no longer attempted for sample members in the selected areas if they did not complete the interview within nine months. These youths, however, were eligible for 12-month follow-up interviews, and they were administered an abbreviated baseline supplement if they were located for the 12-month interview.

## **2. Response Rates to the Baseline Interview**

The (unweighted) response rate to the baseline interview for sample members in all areas was 93.1 percent (see Table C.1). Interviews were completed with 14,327 of the 15,386 youths in the research sample. Furthermore, the difference in completion rates for the program research and control group is only 1.4 percentage points (93.7 percent for program research group members and 92.3 percent for control group members). Hence, the effects of nonresponse bias to the baseline interview by research status will be small. The response rate for sample members in the areas selected for in-person interviewing--the *effective* response rate--was 95.2 percent (95.8 percent for program group members and 94.2 percent for control group members).

Response rates to the baseline interview were high for key subgroups (see Table C.1). These response rates were calculated using ETA-652 and ETA-652 Supplement data available for *both* interview respondents and nonrespondents. Response rates were similar by gender, race, high school graduation status, and residential designation status. Response rates were slightly higher for younger sample members than older ones, and for those who lived in urban areas (PMSAs and superdense areas) than for those in less populated areas. In addition, response rates were slightly larger for those never arrested or convicted than those who had problems with the law. These differences in response rates, however, are small, indicating that interview respondents and nonrespondents have similar characteristics (as discussed in more detail in Appendix D).

TABLE C.1  
TOTAL AND EFFECTIVE RESPONSE RATES TO THE BASELINE INTERVIEW,  
BY RESEARCH STATUS AND KEY SUBGROUP  
(Percentages)

	Total Response Rate (in All Areas)			Effective Response Rate (in Intensive Areas)		
	Program Group	Control Group	Combined Sample	Program Group	Control Group	Combined Sample
Full Sample	93.7	92.3	93.1	95.8	94.2	95.1
Gender						
Male	93.2	92.0	92.7	95.4	94.1	94.9
Female	94.3	92.7	93.8	96.2	94.3	95.5
Age at Application						
16 to 17	95.3	93.7	94.6	96.8	95.7	96.4
18 to 19	93.5	91.9	92.9	96.2	93.6	95.1
20 to 21	92.3	92.1	92.2	94.5	94.7	94.6
22 to 24	90.8	88.4	89.9	93.1	89.8	91.8
Race/Ethnicity						
White, non-Hispanic	93.5	91.6	92.8	95.9	94.0	95.2
Black, non-Hispanic	94.5	93.3	94.0	95.8	94.6	95.3
Hispanic	93.9	92.9	93.5	96.1	94.6	95.5
Other	86.2	84.6	85.6	92.5	88.0	90.6
Region of Residence						
1	95.6	93.9	94.9	94.9	93.8	94.4
2	96.8	92.3	94.9	97.2	93.6	95.7
3	94.1	94.9	94.4	95.6	95.5	95.6
4	94.1	93.8	94.0	95.8	94.7	95.4
5	90.7	89.0	90.0	93.1	93.9	93.4
6	93.6	90.2	92.3	96.8	92.8	95.3
7/8	93.6	91.1	92.6	96.4	93.4	95.3
9	92.3	91.5	92.0	96.0	94.4	95.4
10	94.0	93.7	93.9	94.7	95.2	94.9
Size of City of Residence						
Less than 2,500	93.0	90.9	92.2	96.2	94.1	95.3
2,500 to 10,000	94.4	92.5	93.7	97.0	95.6	96.4
10,000 to 50,000	92.5	92.2	92.4	95.4	94.4	95.0
50,000 to 250,000	92.9	91.6	92.4	95.4	94.7	95.2
250,000 or more	94.6	92.7	93.9	95.9	93.8	95.0
PMSA or MSA Residence Status						
In PMSA	95.5	92.9	94.5	95.9	93.6	94.9
In MSA	93.1	92.2	92.7	95.4	94.6	95.1
In neither	92.2	91.4	91.9	96.6	95.0	95.9
Size of Area of Residence						
Superdense	96.0	94.3	95.3	96.0	94.3	95.3
Dense	92.9	91.6	92.4	95.4	94.3	95.0
Nondense	92.0	90.7	91.5	95.5	93.9	94.9
Date of Random Assignment						
11/94 to 2/95	96.1	92.2	94.6	97.4	94.7	96.3
3/95 to 6/95	94.0	93.9	94.0	95.6	95.0	95.4
7/95 to 10/95	92.9	91.5	92.4	95.4	93.9	94.8
11/95 to 2/96	92.5	91.3	92.0	95.3	93.0	94.3

TABLE C.1 (continued)

	Total Response Rate (in All Areas)			Effective Response Rate (in Intensive Areas)		
	Program Group	Control Group	Combined Sample	Program Group	Control Group	Combined Sample
Fertility						
Has dependents	93.8	92.6	93.4	96.0	94.4	95.3
Has no dependents	93.8	92.2	93.1	95.8	94.1	95.1
Education						
Completed 12th grade	93.9	93.0	93.5	95.6	94.8	95.3
Did not complete 12th grade	93.7	92.1	93.1	95.9	94.1	95.2
Public Assistance						
Receiving AFDC	94.1	92.8	93.6	95.8	94.5	95.3
Receiving other assistance	93.0	91.3	92.4	96.0	93.3	94.9
Not receiving	93.7	92.3	93.2	95.8	94.2	95.1
Crime						
Arrested in past three years	91.7	89.1	90.7	94.8	92.6	93.9
Not arrested in past three years	94.0	92.7	93.5	96.0	94.4	95.4
Ever convicted or adjudged delinquent	91.2	87.3	89.6	94.7	89.1	92.4
Never convicted or adjudged delinquent	93.8	92.6	93.3	95.8	94.5	95.3
Residential Designation Status						
Resident	93.5	91.7	92.8	95.7	93.9	95.0
Nonresident	94.2	95.4	94.6	96.1	95.4	95.8
CCC/Contract Center Designation						
CCC center	93.5	92.3	93.3	95.2	94.2	94.8
Contract center	94.0	92.2	93.0	95.8	94.2	95.1
<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>9,409</b>	<b>5,977</b>	<b>15,386</b>	<b>6,254</b>	<b>4,286</b>	<b>10,540</b>

SOURCE: ETA-652 and ETA-652 Supplemental forms.

NOTE: The effective response rate to the baseline interview is the response rate for sample members eligible for interviews after 45 days after random assignment. These are youths who lived in randomly selected areas at application to Job Corps. These youths were eligible for both in-person and continued telephone interviewing after the 45-day period.



The telephone response rate within the 45-day period after random assignment was about 89 percent for both program research and control group members and was similar for those in the in-person and non-in-person areas (see Table C.2). An additional 6.6 percent of program group members and 5.9 percent of control group members living in the in-person areas completed baseline interviews more than 45 days after they were randomly assigned. About 80 percent of these post-45-day interviews were completed by telephone, and 20 percent were completed in person.<sup>6</sup>

Most interview respondents completed the baseline interview soon after random assignment (see Table C.3). Nearly 30 percent of interview respondents completed their interview on the same day they were randomly assigned, more than 50 percent completed their interview within one day after random assignment, and more than 75 percent completed their interviews within seven days after random assignment. Only 10 percent of interviews were completed more than one month after random assignment. The distributions of completion times are similar for program research and control group members. The fact that most interviews were conducted quickly suggests that a majority of sample members did not know their research status prior to the interview and that recall error did not have a large effect on item responses.

We attribute the high response rates to three main factors. First, we obtained detailed locating information (addresses and telephone numbers) from the study forms. As discussed in Appendix A, we obtained at least one piece of contact information for all sample members and an average of nearly three distinct contacts per youth. Second, sample members were contacted soon after random assignment (and, thus, soon after they provided the contact information). Finally, we believe that the use of respondent incentive payments increased response rates. All control group respondents

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<sup>6</sup>Two hundred ninety-seven interviews were completed while the respondent was living in a Job Corps center, 35 interviews were completed while the respondent was in a jail or penitentiary, and 173 interviews were completed while the respondent was in a halfway house or a group home. Ninety respondents were homeless.

TABLE C.2

PERCENTAGE COMPLETING THE BASELINE INTERVIEW BEFORE AND AFTER THE 45-DAY PERIOD,  
BY RESEARCH STATUS, TYPE OF AREA, KEY SUBGROUP, AND TYPE OF INTERVIEW

Subgroup	Completed Interview by Telephone Within 45 Days After Random Assignment		Completed Interview After 45 Days After Random Assignment					
	Program Group	Control Group	By Telephone		In Person		Total	
			Program Group	Control Group	Program Group	Control Group	Program Group	Control Group
In-Person Areas								
Full Sample	89.2	88.3	5.1	4.9	1.4	0.9	6.6	5.9
Gender								
Male	89.2	87.9	4.7	5.5	1.5	0.7	6.2	6.2
Female	89.2	89.0	5.7	4.1	1.3	1.3	7.0	5.4
Age at Application								
16 to 17	91.1	90.8	4.4	4.2	1.3	0.8	5.7	4.9
18 to 19	89.9	87.3	4.9	5.5	1.4	0.8	6.2	6.3
20 to 21	87.8	88.2	5.5	5.1	1.3	1.4	6.7	6.5
22 to 24	83.4	82.6	7.5	6.0	2.2	1.2	9.7	7.2
Residential Status								
Residents	89.3	87.7	5.2	5.4	1.2	0.8	6.4	6.2
Nonresidents	88.9	90.6	4.9	3.4	2.3	1.3	7.2	4.8
Number of Completes	5,579	3,785	322	212	88	40	410	252
Sample Size	6,254	4,286	6,254	4,286	6,254	4,286	6,254	4,286

TABLE C.2 (continued)

Subgroup	Completed Interview by Telephone Within 45 Days After Random Assignment		Completed Interview After 45 Days After Random Assignment					
	Program Group	Control Group	By Telephone		In Person		Total	
			Program Group	Control Group	Program Group	Control Group	Program Group	Control Group
Non-In-Person Areas								
Full Sample	89.5	87.3	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Gender								
Male	88.9	87.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Female	90.4	87.0	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Age at Application								
16 to 17	92.2	88.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
18 to 19	88.4	87.5	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
20 to 21	88.2	85.4	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
22 to 24	85.6	84.2	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Residential Status								
Residents	89.5	87.3 <sup>a</sup>	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Nonresidents	89.6		n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Number of Completes	2,824	1,477	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Sample Size	3,155	1,691						

TABLE C.2 (continued)

Subgroup	Completed Interview by Telephone Within 45 Days After Random Assignment		Completed Interview After 45 Days After Random Assignment					
	Program Group	Control Group	By Telephone		In Person		Total	
			Program Group	Control Group	Program Group	Control Group	Program Group	Control Group
<b>All Areas</b>								
Full Sample	89.3	88.0	3.4	3.5	0.9	0.7	4.4	4.2
Gender								
Male	89.1	87.8	3.1	3.8	1.0	0.5	4.1	4.3
Female	89.6	88.5	3.9	3.2	0.9	1.0	4.8	4.1
Age at Application								
16 to 17	91.5	90.2	3.0	3.0	0.9	0.5	3.8	3.5
18 to 19	89.4	87.4	3.2	3.9	0.9	0.6	4.1	4.5
20 to 21	87.9	87.4	3.5	3.7	0.8	1.0	4.3	4.7
22 to 24	84.1	83.0	5.3	4.6	1.5	0.9	6.8	5.5
Residential Status								
Residents	89.4	87.6	3.4	3.6	0.8	0.6	4.2	4.1
Nonresidents	89.1	90.6	3.5	3.4	1.6	1.3	5.1	4.8
Number of Completes	8,403	5,262	322	212	88	40	410	252
<b>Sample Size</b>	<b>9,409</b>	<b>5,977</b>	<b>9,409</b>	<b>5,977</b>	<b>9,409</b>	<b>5,977</b>	<b>9,409</b>	<b>5,977</b>

SOURCE: Data from the ETA-652 and ETA-652 Supplemental forms.

NOTE: In-person areas are randomly selected areas in which youths were eligible for telephone and in-person interviewing after 45 days after random assignment.

<sup>a</sup>All control group members designated for nonresidential slots were eligible for post-45-day interviews regardless of the areas in which they resided. These youths are counted in the table as being in intensive areas.

n.a.= not applicable.

TABLE C.3

CUMULATIVE DISTRIBUTION OF THE NUMBER OF DAYS BETWEEN RANDOM  
ASSIGNMENT AND COMPLETION OF THE BASELINE INTERVIEW FOR  
THOSE IN THE INTENSIVE AREAS, BY RESEARCH STATUS  
(Percentages)

Number of Days	Program Group	Control Group	Combined Sample
0	29.3	28.9	29.1
1	51.2	51.1	51.2
2	57.7	58.2	57.9
3 to 7	76.3	76.1	76.2
8 to 14	84.0	83.7	83.9
15 to 21	87.7	87.7	87.7
22 to 30	90.4	90.7	90.6
31 to 45	93.2	93.8	93.4
46 to 60	94.7	94.9	94.8
61 to 90	97.2	97.5	97.3
91 to 120	98.2	98.5	98.3
120 to 270 <sup>a</sup>	100.0	100.0	100.0
(Average Days)	11.1	10.7	11.0
<b>Number of Baseline Youths Who Completed Interviews</b>	<b>5,989</b>	<b>4,037</b>	<b>10,026</b>

SOURCE: Baseline interview data.

NOTE: The intensive areas are randomly selected areas in which youths were eligible for telephone and in-person interviewing after 45 days after random assignment.

<sup>a</sup>Baseline interview attempts ended nine months after random assignment.

received a \$10 payment, and 10 percent of hard-to-locate program group members received the payment.<sup>7</sup>

The baseline interview took about 37 minutes, on average, to complete. One-quarter of interview respondents completed the interview in less than 29 minutes, and three-quarters completed the interview within 44 minutes. Over 95 percent of respondents completed the interview within one hour.

### **3. Item Nonresponse**

Few measures tabulated in the reports on the characteristics of youths served by Job Corps and eligible applicants' perspectives on outreach and admissions are missing because youths reported that they did not know the answer to the questions or because they refused to answer the questions (see Tables C.4 and C.5). Data items about the youths' demographic characteristics, marital and fertility histories, living arrangements, educational attainment, recent schooling and training experience, employment experience, health, and knowledge of Job Corps and recruiting experiences are typically missing for less than 2 percent of respondents. More-specific questions about these topics (for example, the number of months employed in the past year, the number of months enrolled in education programs in the past year, the reasons that youths left school or training) are typically missing for about 7 percent of cases. In addition, data items pertaining to welfare receipt are missing for about 10 percent of the cases. Missing values are much more common for the data items on the education and occupations of the youths' parents (especially for the fathers) and on total household

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<sup>7</sup>The percentage of program research group members who received respondent payments did not differ by gender, age, or residential designation status. The youths who received payment were those who did not complete the baseline interview within the first few weeks after random assignment. The median (mean) number of days between the random assignment and interview completion dates for those who did not receive payments was 1 day (4 days), compared to 36 days (52 days) for those who received payments. Respondent payments were not offered to youths interviewed while they were enrolled in Job Corps centers.

TABLE C.4

RESPONSE RATES FOR MEASURES OF THE CHARACTERISTICS OF YOUTHS  
SERVED BY JOB CORPS USING BASELINE INTERVIEW DATA,  
BY RESEARCH STATUS AND GENDER  
(Percentages)

	Total Sample	Control Group	Program Group	Males	Females
<b>Demographics</b>					
Gender	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Age at Application	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Race/Ethnicity	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Region of Residence	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
PMSA or MSA Residence Status	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
U.S. Citizen	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
Native Language	99.8	99.7	99.8	99.7	99.9
<b>Childhood Experiences and Backgrounds of Parents</b>					
Head of Household When Sample Member Was 14	99.1	99.1	99.1	99.0	99.3
Extent to Which Family Was on Welfare When Sample Member Was Growing up	93.7	93.3	94.0	93.0	94.8
Mother Had High School Diploma	81.0	80.3	81.4	79.7	82.9
Father Had High School Diploma	61.2	60.7	61.6	62.7	59.1
<b>Marriage, Fertility, and Living Arrangements</b>					
Marital Status	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
Has Natural Children	99.3	99.1	99.3	99.3	99.2
Number of Children <sup>a</sup>	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Age of Eldest Child <sup>a</sup>	99.8	99.7	99.8	99.8	99.8
Household Membership	99.6	99.4	99.7	99.5	99.6
Number in household	99.6	99.4	99.7	99.5	99.6
<b>Education</b>					
Highest Grade Completed	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.9
Has GED Certificate	99.5	99.5	99.4	99.5	99.5
Attended Any Education Program in Past Year	99.2	99.3	99.1	99.1	99.3
Number of Months Enrolled in Education Programs in Past Year <sup>b</sup>	94.0	94.2	93.9	93.6	94.7
Type of Most Recent Education Program <sup>b</sup>	98.8	98.7	98.8	98.7	98.9
Reason Left Most Recent Education Program	94.1	94.3	93.9	93.5	94.8
Reason Left School or Training for Those Not in School in the Past Year	94.4	95.1	93.9	94.4	94.3

TABLE C.4 (continued)

	Total Sample	Control Group	Program Group	Males	Females
<b>Employment and Earnings</b>					
Ever Had a Full-Time or Part-Time Job	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Had a Job in the Past Year	99.4	99.5	99.3	99.3	99.6
Months Employed in the Past Year <sup>c</sup>	93.2	93.0	93.3	92.3	94.7
Earnings in the Past Year <sup>c</sup>	90.1	89.7	90.2	89.4	91.1
Hourly Wage in Most Recent Job <sup>c</sup>	93.3	93.7	93.1	94.2	91.9
Occupation of Most Recent Job <sup>c</sup>	97.7	97.7	97.7	97.3	98.3
Main Reason Left Most Recent Job <sup>c</sup>	84.2	83.7	84.4	83.6	85.1
<b>Welfare Dependence and Total Income</b>					
Received AFDC	89.7	89.3	90.0	87.5	93.1
Received Food Stamps	92.8	92.6	92.9	91.4	94.9
Received Any Public Assistance	90.3	90.4	90.4	88.4	93.5
Months Received Any Public Assistance <sup>d</sup>	97.8	97.7	98.0	97.4	98.3
Total Household Income	63.3	63.8	63.0	62.4	64.8
Total Personal Income	93.0	93.1	93.0	93.0	93.1
<b>Health</b>					
Health Status	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.8
Had Physical or Emotional Problems That Limited the Amount of Work That Could Be Done	99.8	99.8	99.9	99.8	99.9
Type of Serious Health Problem <sup>e</sup>	98.4	98.3	98.5	97.7	99.4
<b>Tobacco, Alcohol, and Illegal Drug Use</b>					
Ever Smoked Cigarettes	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ever Consumed Alcoholic Beverages	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Ever Smoked Marijuana or Hashish	99.9	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.9
Smoked Marijuana or Hashish in the Past Year	99.8	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.9
Ever Snorted Cocaine Powder	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
Ever Smoked Crack Cocaine or Freebased	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
Ever Used Hallucinogenic Drugs	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	100.0
Ever Used Heroin, Opium, Methadone, or Downers	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
Summary of Drugs Ever Used	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8	99.8
Ever in a Drug or Alcohol Treatment Program	99.9	99.9	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Crime</b>					
Ever Arrested or Charged with a Delinquency or Criminal Complaint	98.5	98.4	98.6	98.0	99.3
Number of Times Arrested <sup>f</sup>	94.0	93.7	94.2	93.6	95.1



TABLE C.4 (*continued*)

	Total Sample	Control Group	Program Group	Males	Females
Age at First Arrest <sup>f</sup>	94.0	93.7	94.2	93.6	95.1
Most Serious Charge for Which Arrested <sup>f</sup>	89.7	89.4	89.9	89.1	91.2
Ever Convicted, Pled Guilty, or Adjudged Delinquent	97.5	97.5	97.4	96.7	98.5
<b>Number of Youths Who Completed Baseline Interviews</b>	<b>14,327</b>	<b>5,514</b>	<b>8,813</b>	<b>8,646</b>	<b>5,681</b>

SOURCE: Baseline interview data.

<sup>a</sup>Data pertain to those with natural children.

<sup>b</sup>Data pertain to those in education programs in the year prior to random assignment.

<sup>c</sup>Data pertain to those who had a job in the year prior to random assignment.

<sup>d</sup>Data pertain to those who received public assistance in the year prior to random assignment.

<sup>e</sup>Data pertain to those who had a serious health problem.

<sup>f</sup>Data pertain to those who were ever arrested.

TABLE C.5

RESPONSE RATES FOR MEASURES OF SAMPLE MEMBERS' PERSPECTIVES ON  
OUTREACH AND ADMISSIONS USING BASELINE INTERVIEW DATA,  
BY RESEARCH STATUS AND GENDER

	Total Sample	Control Group	Program Group	Males	Females
<b>Sources of Information About Job Corps</b>					
How First Heard About Job Corps	99.6	99.7	99.5	99.5	99.6
First Heard About Job Corps from an OA Counselor	99.5	99.6	99.4	99.5	99.5
Knew Anyone Who Attended Job Corps	99.2	99.3	99.2	99.2	99.4
How Obtained the Most Information About What Job Corps Would Be Like	97.5	97.7	97.4	97.6	97.3
<b>Reasons for Joining Job Corps</b>					
Important Reasons for Joining Job Corps (Average Response Rate)	99.5	99.5	99.7	99.5	99.6
Most Important Reason for Joining Job Corps	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
<b>Program Expectations</b>					
Ways Expected Job Corps to Help a Lot (Average Response Rate)	99.2	99.1	99.3	99.2	99.2
Knows What Center Wants to Attend	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.6	99.7
Main Reason Wants Specific Center	98.9	98.9	98.8	98.9	98.8
Knows What Type of Job Training Wanted	99.6	99.5	99.7	99.6	99.7
Type of Training Wants	97.6	97.4	97.8	98.4	96.5
Expected Earnings per Hour After Job Corps	45.9	45.3	46.3	47.4	43.7
Has Worries About What Job Corps Would Be Like	99.7	99.8	99.7	99.7	99.8
Main Type of Worry	99.8	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.9
<b>Information on Discussions with Individuals About Going to Job Corps</b>					
Whether Had Discussions with Specific Individuals (Average Response Rate)	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9	99.9
Advice of Consulted Individuals Important in Youth's Decision to Enroll (Average Response Rate)	99.4	99.3	99.5	99.4	99.5
Consulted Individuals Encouraged Youth to Enroll (Average Response Rate)	97.3	97.2	97.4	97.5	97.0
OA Counselor Encouraged Youth to Enroll	98.9	99.2	98.8	98.8	99.1

TABLE C.5 (continued)

	Total Sample	Control Group	Program Group	Males	Females
<b>Initial Contact and Topics Discussed with OA Counselors</b>					
How First Spoke to OA Counselor	99.8	99.9	99.8	99.8	99.9
Mode of Telephone Contact	98.4	98.5	98.3	98.1	98.8
Place of In-Person Contact	97.6	97.4	97.8	97.6	97.7
Discussed How Long Youth Is Expected to Stay in Job Corps	90.0	90.1	90.0	90.6	89.2
Number of Months Youth Is Expected to Stay in Job Corps <sup>a</sup>	99.9	99.8	99.9	99.9	99.9
Discussed When First Able to Visit Family	94.9	94.8	94.9	95.1	94.6
Weeks Until First Able to Visit Family <sup>a</sup>	81.4	80.5	82.0	80.7	82.6
Discussed How Long Until Given Center Assignment	98.2	98.0	98.3	98.3	98.0
Weeks Until Given Center Assignment <sup>a</sup>	95.1	95.0	95.1	95.3	94.7
Discussed Chances of Getting Desired Trade	99.6	99.5	99.7	99.6	99.7
Chances of Getting Desired Trade <sup>a</sup>	86.4	86.4	86.3	86.7	85.9
Total Hours OA Counselor Spent with Youth	99.3	99.4	99.3	99.2	99.5
<b>Number of Youths Who Completed Baseline Interviews</b>	<b>14,327</b>	<b>5,514</b>	<b>8,813</b>	<b>8,646</b>	<b>5,681</b>

SOURCE: Baseline interview data.

<sup>a</sup>Data pertain to those who discussed the indicated topic with the OA counselor.

income (35 percent of cases have missing values). Data quality does not differ for program and control group members or by gender.

Nonresponse was infrequent for sensitive questions on drug use and experiences with the criminal justice system. Nearly all sample members responded to the questions on alcohol and drug use and drug treatment. These data items are missing for less than .5 percent of the cases. Data items on arrest charges are typically missing for less than 3 percent of cases, and data items on the disposition of arrest charges are typically missing for about 5 percent of youths.

Interviewers reported that the overall data quality is high for nearly 94 percent of the respondents. In addition, they reported that over 95 percent of respondents answered the questions truthfully and that 95 percent were able to understand the questions fairly well and were cooperative.